

**From:** Nowakowski, Steve  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
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I believe you must allow the current settlement proposed for the Microsoft antitrust case.

Microsoft has shown itself to be a ruthless predator in the industry. They unfairly used their operating system monopoly (acquired by taking advantage of IBM) to force other companies out of application businesses. The reason office became a leader was due to bundling the application with every copy of Windows sold. A clear example of trying to force competitors out of business is Netscape but there are many smaller examples. Now Microsoft is trying force themselves into other platforms, such as the handheld computer industry, via their monopoly position on the desktop. In the case of both Netscape and Palm, an established leader in their space was threatened by Microsoft leveraging their monopoly on the desktop.

The whole computer industry suffers from this monopoly because it stifles competition and stops diversity in the industry. Consequently, the operating systems do not move forward and we do not get creative and new applications.

The alternative settlement proposed by the nine dissenting states is a much better remedy to this problem.

Thank you for your time.

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